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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 140 of the preliminary list*
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 3 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, which was presented by the Russian Ambassador to the Netherlands at a meeting of the Administrative Council of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague on 25 April 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 140 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. VORONTSOV

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the convening of a third international peace conference

The hundredth anniversary of the first International Peace Conference, held in The Hague in 1899 on the initiative of Russia, is approaching. By consolidating the principles of international law, this forum and the subsequent second International Conference, held in 1907, became milestones in the life of the international community. The conventions, declarations and other decisions adopted at the two conferences provided a powerful impetus for the creation of a system for the peaceful settlement of disputes and humanization of armed conflicts, affairs, and placed the problem of arms limitation and disarmament on a practical plane.

Although the Hague conferences were not able to prevent the conflagration of two world wars, they nevertheless were a great undertaking that defined the main thrust vector of international life in the twentieth century: the desire for peace and the affirmation of the principles of justice and love of one's fellow human being.

Today, on the eve of the third millennium, mankind should not miss the opportunity to strengthen international peace and consolidate the legal principles which, in the light of the present multipolar world order, should form the basis of a new global balance. The realization of this age-old dream calls for energetic measures.

On instructions from President Boris Yeltsin, and on behalf of the Russian Federation, which served as chairman of the 1899 and 1907 Hague conferences, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation proposes that all States consider the idea of convening a third international peace conference in 1999.

In putting forth this proposal, the Russian Federation is guided principally by the decisions of the second Hague conference of 1907, which recommended that States parties convene a third peace conference. We hope that our proposal will be received with interest. Bearing in mind the position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the General Assembly's decision to declare the period 1990-1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law, and similar recommendations made at the 1993 Conference of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

A preliminary agenda for the third international conference could be as follows:

- improvement of the mechanism for the peaceful settlement of disputes, including the possible clarification or review of the 1899 and 1907 Conventions;

- filling of the gaps in the international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts, and its development;

- creation of a system of international criminal justice with respect to crimes against peace and humanity, as well as other international offences.

If these proposals are supported, the Russian Federation is prepared to submit to States for consideration its ideas on a programme of such a forum, as was done during preparations for the first and second Hague peace conferences. For our part, we are ready to engage in a dialogue on the content, organization and holding of the third international peace conference.

In accordance with the 1907 decisions on the preparation of the conference, a preparatory committee must be established two years before the convening of the conference in order to consider proposals, prepare draft documents and make recommendations on the organization and procedures for the work of the conference. We are prepared to participate actively in the establishment and work of such a body.

The Russian Federation is in favour of the establishment, within the Administrative Council of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, of a steering committee that would put forward proposals relating to the review of the 1899 and 1907 conventions on the pacific settlement of international disputes. The recommendations of the Administrative Council on the work of the steering committee could become a major contribution to the preparations for the third international conference.

Of course, the conference should be organized in cooperation with the United Nations within the framework of its Decade of International Law.

With regard to the venue of the third international peace conference, if the Government of the Netherlands agrees, the conference could, like the two previous conferences, be held in The Hague.

One hundred years is a tremendous historical span, especially in the dynamic twentieth century. Nevertheless, leafing today through old documents of the 1899 and 1907 Hague conferences, one is constantly amazed that, even at that time, such lasting values were established. The note by the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs of 12 August 1898 concerning the convening of the first Hague peace conference is eloquent testimony to the link between that time and our own:

> "This conference could augur well for the coming century. It would unite into one mighty whole the efforts of all States sincerely striving to make the great idea of universal peace triumph over strife and discord. At the same time, it would consolidate harmony among States through their mutual recognition of the principles of law and justice on which the security of States and the prosperity of peoples are based."

How timely these words are for us all even today.

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6 May 1994

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Forty-ninth session
Item 40 of the preliminary list*

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Letter dated 5 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on the Gaza-Jericho Agreement signed at Cairo on 4 May 1994 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 40 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 5 May 1994 by the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey

The Agreement, signed yesterday at Cairo, which stipulates the modalities of the establishment of the autonomous Palestinian Administration in the Gaza Strip and Jericho has opened a new chapter in the Middle East peace process.

Turkey, represented at the signing ceremony by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hikmet Çetin, welcomes this historical Agreement and congratulates the Israeli and Palestinian leadership whose persistent policies assured this successful outcome. Turkey commends the contributions of the United States of America and the Russian Federation, co-sponsors of the peace process, who have spared no effort to help the parties overcome the obstacles that occurred during the negotiations. The endeavours of the Arab Republic of Egypt and its President, His Excellency Mr. Hosni Mubarak, who contributed to the conclusion of this Agreement, are also to be recalled with appreciation.

Turkey, which has always deployed every effort for the achievement of peace and stability in the region, is firmly dedicated to continuing its contributions to the peace process within the context of its good relations with all the parties.

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9 May 1994

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Forty-ninth session
Items 72, 98 and 104 (c) of the
preliminary list*

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

RIGHTS OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 6 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith, the text of the Appeal addressed to you on 1 May 1994 by 75 prominent Albanian intellectuals on behalf of all Albanian intellectuals.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 72, 98 and 104 (c) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Appeal of Albanian intellectuals, addressed to the Secretary-General on 1 May 1994

The recent events related to the crisis in the former Yugoslavia revive the hope that things are arriving at a turning-point concerning the resolution of the Bosnian crisis. The creation of the Croatian-Muslim Federation is good news, a sign of a serious approach that may open new ways and vistas to world diplomacy for a just and stable solution of the problems in the whole of the Balkans region.

Albanian intellectuals hold that this is a crucial moment for the Albanian national question, which must mark its return to the agenda of international politics and the treatment of the historical truth with new attention and greater sensibility in relation to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

It is the aspiration of the Albanian people on both sides of the border, and also in the interest of all the peoples of the region and of peace in Europe, that this ray of light, appearing on the horizon of international politics, should have an impact on the reopening of the Albanian file.

In the present conditions, the suspended questions that have appeared as a result of the disintegration of the Yugoslav Federation may be solved only through realistic policies, considering the concrete situations and abiding by international law, from which several multilateral acts stem. The Kosova question, as one of the fundamental components of the Yugoslav crisis, which is not at all "an inner Serbian question", by all means calls for a re-examination and proper solution based on new democratic principles.

As a starting-point, general official and unofficial opinion should be aware of all the elements of the Albanian national question.

The fundamental determinant criteria in solving problems of this character at the end of the present century is the principle of self-determination of peoples. International law is an obligation before the United Nations. In our opinion, this obligation stems from General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 entitled "Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples". In paragraph 1 of that resolution, the General Assembly declared that "the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to world peace and cooperation". Paragraph 2 is formulated in a way that leaves no room for an equivocal interpretation: "All peoples have the right to self-determination ... they freely determine their political status ...". The principle of self-determination has found new meaningful confirmation in acts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and documents of the European Union.

Currently, the international community is directly engaged in resolving problems regarding relations between nations and States. Hence, there can be no solution outside the principles consecrated by a series of international instruments. The United Nations is at the same time their initiator and depository. From the point of view of these instruments, the Kosova question cannot be included in the Procrustean bed of the minority regime. Taking into account its proportions and complexity, it makes up a typical case of a colonial regime, doubled with violations of individual and collective rights, which are nothing but apartheid and segregation against the Albanian population. Under these conditions, intervention by the United Nations is absolutely indispensable because of the aftermath of further escalation of the present Albanian-Serb crisis and of repercussions in the region and beyond. Unless the Serbian occupier is halted in time, it will commit a real holocaust against the Albanian population of Kosova.

Proceeding from the above situation, we, the Albanian intellectuals, separated by borders but united by the national ideal, address to you an appeal that the question of the future of Kosova and of all the Albanians residing in the former Republics of the disintegrated Yugoslav Federation - in Macedonia, south-eastern Serbia and Montenegro - be treated as soon as possible in a special international conference under the auspices of the Organization.

The following principles are imperative for the entire Albanian nation:

(a) Recognition of the Republic of Kosova as an independent, sovereign and neutral State, placing it under the observation and protection of international bodies;

(b) Recognition of the right of the Albanians of Macedonia, who make up 40 per cent of its population, to be a substantial, constitutive component of the State;

(c) Recognition and observation of the national and human rights of the Albanians in Montenegro and south-eastern Serbia according to the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter.

The Albanian people solemnly pledge that they will strictly observe these rights for their ethnic minorities.

We are fully convinced that the presence and active care of the United Nations is a decisive guarantee for the finding and realization in practice of a just and stable solution that would put an end once and for all to the painful chapter of Balkan conflicts and hostilities.

In conclusion, we also hope that you will act as quickly as is demanded by this question, which threatens to degenerate into a conflict without any resolution.

APPENDIX

List of signatories

Adem Demaci
Abdylhadi Zylyfiqari
Ali Aliu
Ali Podrimja
Alfred Uci
Andromaqi Gjergji
Angjelin Perlocaj
Arben Puto
Asti Papa
Azem Shkreli
Bardhyl Londo
Çesk Zadeja
Dritero Agolli
Elez Biberaj
Eqerem Basha
Ermir Krantja
Fatos Arapi
Fehmi Agani
Gani Bobi
Gazmend Zaimi
Gjergj Zheji
Halil Sykja
Hamlet Bezhani
Hivzi Islami
Inva Mula
Ismail Kadare
Isuf Luzaj
Ismail Turku
Jusuf Vrioni
Kadri Roshi
Kol Ashta
Koli Xoxi
Kozma Lara
Kristo Frasheri
Kudret Velça
Mahir Domi
Mehmet Bardhi
Muhamedin Kullashi
Muharrem Lika
Murat Isaku
Naum Prifti
Nazmi Rrahmani
Nermin Vlora
Nexhat Mustafa
Nikolla Pano
Pandeli Çino
Peter Prifti
Ramadan Sokoli
Ramiz Kelmendi
Remzi Nesimi
Rexhep Ismaili
Rexhep Qosja
Rexhep Zllatku
Resul Shabani
Rifat Latifi
Rifat Teqja
Robert Ndrenika
Sabri Hamiti
Sami Repishti
Seit Mancaku
Selaudin Bekteshi
Spiro Shkurti
Shaban Demiraj
Sherif Delvina
Trim Gjayta
Xhevahir Spahiu
Xhevat Gega
Ymer Jaka
Zana Turku
Zef Rakacolli
Zekeria Cana
Zejnullah Rahmani
Zenun Çela
Zija Shkodra
Zhani Ciko

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Forty-ninth session
Item 72 of the preliminary list*
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 5 May 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to you in connection with the letter dated 3 May 1994 addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations (A/49/140-S/1994/533).

The above-mentioned letter is a blatant example of the perseverance of the Albanian authorities in presenting deliberately distorted facts and untruths against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Permanent Mission of Albania, by distributing its press release of 15 April 1994, has shown that it does not refrain from abusing the United Nations by advocating flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. This, more than any heartbreaking rhetorical statement for propaganda purposes about Albania's commitment to act in a constructive manner and conduct a peaceful policy that contributes significantly to peace and stability and to respect the Charter of the United Nations as well as all other international documents, is best evidenced by the above-mentioned press release of the Albanian Mission (see annex), which calls upon Albanian Americans to rally for "Kosova independence".

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Press release issued on 15 April 1994 by the Permanent Mission of Albania to the United Nations

ALBANIAN AMERICANS WILL RALLY TODAY FOR KOSOVA INDEPENDENCE

Today, on 15 April, the Albanian-American community will organize a rally for the independence of Kosova. The rally will be held from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza (47th Street and First Avenue).

Thousands of Albanians will protest against the colonial Serbian repression against the Albanian people of Kosova. They will ask that the will of the Kosova people for the Independent and Neutral Republic of Kosova be realized without delay. At the same time, they will call on the United Nations to put Kosova and its people under its protection.

The Parliament of Kosova organized in 1991 (from 26 to 30 September), a referendum on the future status of the former socialist autonomous province. Of the 1,051,357 eligible voters of Kosova, 914,902 (87.01 per cent) individuals participated in the referendum; 99.87 per cent of the voters voted in favour of Kosova's sovereignty and independence.

Based on the results of the referendum, the Assembly of Kosova (Parliament) declared Kosova a sovereign and independent republic. As results of the general and presidential elections held in Kosova on 24 May 1992, the new Parliament was elected and Mr. Ibrahim Rugova was the first President. However, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) did not recognize the results of the referendum and the elections.

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Forty-ninth session
Items 64 and 65 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 10 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you herewith the aide-mémoire of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 30 April 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the aide-mémoire circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 64 and 65 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

Annex

AIDE-MÉMOIRE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA DATED 30 APRIL 1994

(A new peace arrangement should be established to substitute for the armistice arrangement on the Korean peninsula)

It is going to be 41 years since guns ceased roaring on the Korean peninsula and the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed.

While an uncertain no-peace, no-war situation has lasted for four decades in the cease-fire setting, tensions in Korea have persisted unabated and the danger of war has snowballed with the passage of days.

In recent months alone, the United States has shipped its up-to-date military hardware, including Patriot missile batteries, into south Korea, massively deployed its supercolossal aircraft carriers and a number of other warships around the waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and, on the other hand, conducted joint war manoeuvres one after another along with south Korea. These moves have led to a touch-and-go situation today in which a nuclear war might break out at any moment on the Korean peninsula. The current developments highlight the urgent need for effective and decisive steps to be taken to obviate the danger of war and establish a new security arrangement in Korea.

I. THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS WORKED HARD TO CONVERT THE CEASE-FIRE ARRANGEMENT INTO A DURABLE PEACE

The Korean Armistice Agreement, 1/ signed on 27 July 1953, is simply a provisional arrangement that presupposes a follow-up process in which the two belligerent sides should disengage themselves from military actions and should work to replace the truce with a peace agreement.

Paragraph 60 of article IV of the Korean Armistice Agreement provides that: "In order to ensure the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, the military Commanders of both sides hereby recommend to the Governments of the countries concerned on both sides that, within three (3) months after the Armistice Agreement is signed and becomes effective, a political conference of a higher level of both sides be held by representatives appointed respectively to settle through negotiation the questions of the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, etc."

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has done all it could to the best of its abilities faithfully to implement the Armistice Agreement and convert the cease-fire arrangement into a durable peace.

At the talks between the two signatories to the Armistice Agreement that began in October 1953 in Panmunjom to deal with a Korean political conference, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted all-

inclusive proposals with respect to the classification of the participants, agenda items and even a press release of the conference, and made patient efforts to bring the conference about. The talks, however, were broken off on 12 December 1953, when the United States walked out of the twenty-third round of talks after persistently repeating its own unreasonable assertions.

It was thanks to the persevering efforts by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the conference of foreign ministers from the countries concerned with a peaceful coordination of the Korean question took place in April 1954 in Geneva.

At this conference, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed that a unified Government be established through all-Korea democratic elections and all the foreign forces be withdrawn from Korea within six months thereafter, and did its level best to bring about a consensus on this proposal.

The United States, however, insisted illogically that "elections" should be held in accordance with south Korea's "constitutional procedures" and in the presence of the United Nations, a belligerent party vis-à-vis the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and that the United States troops should not withdraw until a Government of "unified Korea" is established. Later, the United States issued a unilateral declaration on suspending the Geneva conference and eventually wrecked the conference.

The sincere efforts by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea continued afterwards, though, to fulfil its obligations as a signatory to the Armistice Agreement.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea demobilized 80,000 servicemen in 1956 and took measures, with the consent of the Government of the People's Republic of China, to have the Chinese People's Volunteers withdrawn in 1958.

In the early 1970s, the United States and the south Korean authorities derailed the effortfully arranged north-south high-level talks and betrayed themselves in pursuing the "two Koreas" policy. In this situation, however, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed in March 1974 that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States hold bilateral talks at which to discuss ways to defuse military confrontation and to conclude a peace agreement, and moved further by addressing to the Congress of the United States a draft of the peace agreement intended for discussion at the proposed talks.

The proposal from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been confirmed to be just and reasonable by a resolution of the United Nations. Echoing this proposal, the thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 3390 B (XXX) in November 1975, calling for the dissolution of the "United Nations Command" in south Korea, the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and the withdrawal of all the foreign troops from south Korea. Pressed so hard by the strong world public, the United States, too, had no choice but to include in its draft resolution submitted to the thirtieth session of the General Assembly the need to bring

together all the parties directly concerned to negotiate a new arrangement, that would substitute for the Armistice Agreement and help to de-escalate tensions and establish a lasting peace.

Later, the United States indicated its willingness to move towards defusing tensions on the Korean peninsula through tripartite talks involving the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and also south Korea, instead of the proposed bilateral talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States. Taking into consideration the position expressed by the United States and south Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea formally announced an epoch-making proposal in January 1984 to open tripartite talks by including the south Korean authorities on an equal footing in the proposed bilateral talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, at which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States were to sign a peace agreement on a bilateral basis, on the one hand, and the north and the south were to adopt a non-aggression declaration, on the other hand.

At the annual session of the General Assembly in October 1993, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea told the Assembly that it was high time for an innovative decision to be made for dissolving the "United Nations Command" in south Korea and replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, and proposed that negotiations be held among the parties concerned, with a view to establishing a new peace arrangement that will substitute for the existing truce arrangement.

Most recently, through the statement of its Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 28 April this year (see S/1994/513), the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed to the United States that the two countries hold negotiations for establishing a new peace arrangement that will help to guarantee peace reliably on a practical basis, stressing an urgent need to turn the Armistice Agreement into a peace agreement, as the present cease-fire arrangement is no longer in a position to prevent either an arms build-up or the military threat or war on the Korean peninsula.

Far from accepting all these just proposals from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States has continued to violate the Armistice Agreement by stepping up its military build-up and frequently staging large-scale military exercises.

II. THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND TRUCE MECHANISM HAVE BEEN PARALYSED AND TURNED INTO WORTHLESS INSTRUMENTS

The United States, a real party to the Armistice Agreement, has systematically violated the provisions of this Agreement over the last 40 years.

Having signed the Armistice Agreement on 27 July 1953, the United States concluded the "United States of America-Republic of Korea Mutual Defense Assistance Treaty" in October of the same year with the south Korean authorities in violation of the provisions of the Agreement in an effort to legalize the United States military presence in south Korea.

On 7 November 1955, the United States side shot down a helicopter flying to Kimpo airport on a regular inspection mission of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, killing three Polish delegates of the Commission aboard the helicopter.

On 9 June 1956, the United States forced the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams to withdraw from the designated ports of entry in the United Nations Command-controlled area where the Teams had been stationed in accordance with section C of article II of the Armistice Agreement, because the Teams were observing and reporting the violations of the Agreement by the United States.

It was since then that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission was not able to carry out its missions mandated by the Armistice Agreement.

On 21 June 1957, following the expulsion of the on-site Inspection Teams, the United States declared unilateral non-compliance with subparagraph 13 (d) of the Armistice Agreement, which ruled out the introduction into Korea of the reinforcing operational matériel.

Subparagraph 13 (d) of the Armistice Agreement stipulated that the opposing sides "cease the introduction into Korea of reinforcing combat aircraft, armoured vehicles, weapons and ammunition". This is how the United States paved the way for the legal and administrative basis on which it could proceed with its unbridled arms build-up in south Korea. The United States has since introduced into south Korea a massive quantity of sophisticated weapons, including 1,000 nuclear weapons without any restrictions.

It is none other than the United States that is responsible for the "USS Pueblo incident", the "EC-121 spyplane incident" and the "Panmunjom incident" - incidents that precipitated the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war, thus focusing world attention on the peninsula. To make matters worse, on 25 March 1991, the United States unilaterally designated a south Korean army "general" as the chief delegate of the United Nations Forces to the Military Armistice Commission, despite his apparent disqualification because of the legal irrelevance of his designation to the Armistice Agreement.

This is an open perfidy of paralysing the military armistice mechanism and ignoring and ridiculing the other signatory of the Armistice Agreement. In response to this, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had no choice but to recall its chief delegate to the Military Armistice Commission.

Such irresponsible behaviour on the part of the United States has only invalidated the provisions of the Armistice Agreement essential for preventing the recurrence of war and put the Agreement-implementing bodies out of operation. Consequently, the Military Armistice Commission has turned into a nominal body in which its legitimate component parties ceased to exist, and the Armistice Agreement has been reduced to blank sheets of paper incapable of helping to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula.

The present-day reality is that both the arms build-up and the recurrence of war cannot be prevented by the obsolete armistice mechanism, which has turned out to be a tool of the cold-war policy.

III. THE STATE OF CEASE-FIRE SHOULD TURN INTO A STATE OF LASTING PEACE

The continued accountability of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States to the Armistice Agreement and the absence of a new security arrangement for practically guaranteeing peace are responsible for the uncertainty of situation that has continued on the Korean peninsula since the end of the Korean war. In other words, the uncertainty of situation remains in place because the cold-war structure has failed to give way to the structure of rapprochement on the Korean peninsula.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the Armistice Agreement has established the relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States - the real parties to the Agreement - as hostile relations.

In order for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States to create new peaceful relations replacing such hostile relations, it is essential to terminate the cease-fire arrangement, which is the typical legacy of the cold-war era, and develop a new peace arrangement. This will help to eliminate the threat of an alleged "southward invasion" and a perceived "northward invasion" and to establish new relations of both rapprochement and mutual confidence between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, relations that will dissipate confrontation and mistrust.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has already recommended the United States more than once through channels of contacts to consider instituting a new security arrangement, rather than maintaining the status quo of the armistice arrangement or reviving the inoperative cease-fire mechanism. The United States has, however, refused to accept favourably the credible proposals and initiatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

An intention to maintain the state of cease-fire even in the present post-cold-war era will be understood to be the intention to continue the cold-war policy on the Korean peninsula. It will also be regarded as the intention to move towards confrontation and war, instead of peace and stability.

In the final analysis, the long-standing hostile relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States have spawned crucial issues, including the nuclear issue, on the Korean peninsula, plunging efforts to resolve the issues into an impasse.

If the two countries had already ceased to be hostile to each other and normalized their relations, they would never have found themselves faced with those issues at all, and even if certain issues might have occurred, they could have resolved those issues, if any, without difficulty in an atmosphere of confidence. After all, the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, too, will be resolved smoothly only when it is addressed in a package approach in the perspective of the overall relationship between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States.

The current situation on the Korean peninsula calls for an early termination of the armistice regime. There is no need for the Democratic

People's Republic of Korea and the United States to remain hostile nations, simply on the grounds that they once fought a war.

At the first round of bilateral talks in June 1993, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States agreed to the principles of non-aggression, an indication that the two countries have recognized the need to do so. Such being the case, there are no conditions that prevent the United States from legally terminating the state of cease-fire and improving its relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

There might be several approaches to terminating the state of cease-fire. One of the universally recognized practices is that a belligerent party takes the initiative to terminate belligerency. There are examples of countries having terminated their hostile relations that shaped up at the end of the Second World War. Egypt and Pakistan, for instance, declared unilaterally the termination of the state of war with Germany in 1951, and the former Soviet Union issued a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet in January 1955, declaring its decision to terminate the state of war with Germany.

In the event that the United States defiantly continues its reluctance to respond to the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on terminating the state of cease-fire in favour of a new peace arrangement, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will be left with no alternative but to adopt, at a time it considers appropriate, measures to renounce unilaterally its status as a signatory to the Armistice Agreement.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Security Council, Eighth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1953, document S/3079, appendix A.

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Items 40 and 53 of the preliminary list*

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 10 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, His Excellency Mr. Glafcos Clerides, on the occasion of the signing of the Gaza-Jericho Agreement at Cairo on 4 May 1994 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 40 and 53 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) A. SHAMBOS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement by the President of Cyprus

The signing of the Agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization has already gone down in world history as a courageous and significant step towards peace, which will affect positively not only the Middle East, but also the entire world.

The protracted conflict in the Middle East, in addition to the loss of life and material damage, caused concern throughout the world and created serious dangers for world peace. Now this dangerous situation is receding and it is being replaced by hope and optimism, which brings relief and satisfaction to the entire world, but particularly to the Middle East region.

The start of the settlement of one of the most serious international problems in the world proves that when political leaders are inspired by a vision based on internationally accepted principles, then a sincere will is manifested and untiring efforts are made to find solutions safeguarding those principles in practice.

I welcome the signing of the accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization and wish it to be completed as soon as possible. Cyprus traditionally maintains excellent relations of friendship and cooperation with the Arab world and now is developing similar relations with Israel. For this reason we are particularly pleased because peace will prove to be beneficial for those directly involved in this long conflict.

Our island, which is facing its own serious problem, hopes that now the Cyprus issue will receive greater attention and solidarity from the international community in its efforts for the peaceful solution of its own problem. The vision of peace, based on the same internationally accepted principle, inspires and guides the Government of Cyprus in its sincere, firm and consistent struggle. We seek greater solidarity from the world community and particularly the permanent members of the Security Council to convince the Turkish side to show the similar willingness in this direction. If the Turkish side remains a prisoner of the past and does not share the same vision, the Cyprus issue will continue to remain a source of confrontation and danger that will poison the atmosphere of the entire region.

The Cyprus problem therefore stands out as the next step that the world community will have to take for the consolidation of peace in the area.

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

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ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 45 of the preliminary list*
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS
IN 1995

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 10 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the address to the United Nations made by the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris N. Yeltsin, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 45 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. VORONTSOV

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

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ANNEX

Address to the United Nations made on 10 May 1994 by the President of the Russian Federation on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

In 1995 all mankind will commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. The defeat of nazism marked a great victory of the forces of good over the forces of evil. However, the price of victory was high. The war cost the lives of over 50 million human beings. Hundreds of thousands of cities and villages were wiped off the face of the earth. Hundreds of millions of people were left without shelter and sustenance.

There is not one family in Russia that would not have been scorched by the flames of war. Our pain and sorrow, the inconsolable grief of soldiers' widows, will never subside. Both the tragedy of war and the joy of victory will remain in our people's memory forever.

Even time is powerless to diminish the significance of the great victory achieved through the common efforts of the peoples of various nations. One of the major lessons of this victory is that the maintenance of peace calls for united, well-coordinated and vigorous actions on the part of all peace-loving forces. This is particularly important at the present time when the likelihood of armed confrontation between States persists, blood continues to be shed in civil, inter-ethnic and local conflicts, and the threat of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is growing.

Russia believes that it is in mankind's common interests to take active measures to enhance the role and effectiveness of the United Nations, which is the key element of the collective security system; this would be in keeping with the lofty goal of the Charter of the United Nations "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

Our people, which bore the brunt of the Second World War and sacrificed tens of thousands of its sons and daughters on the altar of victory, consistently rejects the use of force as a means of settling disputes. We are convinced that there are no ends that can justify the unleashing of wars. The preservation of peace is the highest goal of our State.

The Russian Federation calls upon all States Members of the United Nations and their parliaments and Governments to do everything in their power to put an end to the existing armed conflicts and avert new ones.

In memory of the millions of people who perished in the flames of the Second World War, we propose that the fiftieth anniversary of the victory over nazism should be widely and solemnly observed under the auspices of the United Nations and that 1995 should be proclaimed "World Year of Peoples' Remembrance of the Victims of the Second World War".

May the fiftieth anniversary of that great victory give a new powerful impetus to the maintenance and strengthening of peace. Mankind must end the twentieth century and enter the new millennium with confidence in the future.

B. Yeltsin

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General Assembly

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A/49/158
12 May 1994

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Forty-ninth session
Item 37 (b) of the preliminary list*

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Economic assistance to Vanuatu

Report of the Secretary-General

I. BACKGROUND

1. By its resolution 47/161 of 18 December 1992, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Vanuatu.

2. Vanuatu is a small archipelago nation of some 155,000 people with an annual population growth rate of 2.8 per cent. The majority of the population lives in the rural areas and is engaged in subsistence agriculture, primarily root crops and tropical fruits. Cash crops include copra, cattle, coffee and cocoa, which are produced on a smallholder basis. Service industries dominate the formal sector, consisting mainly of tourism, an international financial centre and the government sector. There has been a high level of foreign assistance provided by donors.

3. Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita averaged US$ 1,046 in 1990. Much of the growth in case revenue accrues to expatriates, who play an important role in the formal economy. Average incomes for Vanuatu nationals are estimated at less than half of the overall GDP per capita and are thus amongst the lowest in the South Pacific. Social indicators show infant mortality is still high, at 45 per 1,000, and life expectancy of about 63 years. Access to primary

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

education has improved considerably, with a primary enrolment rate of around 72 per cent. The adult literacy rate has been estimated at 64 per cent. However, significant differences in health and education levels exist between the rural and urban areas.

II. STRATEGIC POLICY AREAS

4. The main strategic policy areas for development are:

(a) Promoting the private sector development necessary for strong, sustained growth;

(b) Improving the management of the public sector;

(c) Developing the human resources of Vanuatu;

(d) Environmental management for the sustainable utilization of natural resources and safeguarding the natural beauty and biodiversity of the country.

III. COOPERATION WITH THE DONOR COMMUNITY

5. Vanuatu depends on concessional external assistance for a large proportion of its public sector investment. External assistance amounted to more than US$ 60 million in 1991/92 (25 per cent of GDP). Efficient utilization of external assistance is, therefore, an important determinant of the future path of economic growth for human development. In 1992 Vanuatu received US$ 30.5 million in external assistance (see annex).

6. The economic sectors accounted for about 60 per cent of total external assistance, with agriculture and natural resources accounting for about 22 per cent. Development administration and economic management accounted for about 31 per cent. Social services account for 22 per cent, with education absorbing most of this assistance. The health sector accounted for an insignificant amount of direct assistance from donors. Limited assistance has been channelled directly to the private sector, mainly through the Vanuatu Development Bank. A large proportion of external assistance has been devoted to technical assistance.

7. Bilateral donors provided the major part of the assistance (88 per cent to Vanuatu in 1992. The principal donors are Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France and Japan. Of the multilateral donors, United Nations agencies provide most of the assistance, particularly the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

IV. AID COORDINATION AND ROUND-TABLE MEETING

8. Following Vanuatu's first round-table meeting with donors in 1988, donors have continued to hold bilateral consultations with the Government to determine the priority areas for the use of development assistance. The donors themselves

consult with each other to ensure complementarity of their assistance, focus their aid in their areas of comparative advantage and avoid duplication of effort.

9. UNDP has been discussing with the Government the convening of a second round-table meeting as called for in General Assembly resolution 47/161. The Government has yet to decide on the timing for this second round-table meeting. Funds from Special Programme Resources (SPR) have been allocated by UNDP and are available for assisting the Government with the preparation and convening of the round-table meeting. UNDP is continuing its discussions with the Government and preparations will commence as soon as the Government decides on the timing of the round-table meeting.

V. COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PROGRAMME

10. The country programme for Vanuatu focuses on sustainable human development. The main programmes are rural water supply and sanitation, energy management and tourism development. The country programme is complemented by regional programmes concentrating on human development, focusing on basic education and life skills, water and sanitation and household food security; sustainable natural resource development, focusing on forestry, fisheries, energy, biodiversity, conservation and capacity-building for sustainable development; and economic and financial management and reform, focusing on economic and financial reform, strategic planning and small enterprises development.

VI. GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

11. Under this programme, a conservation area proposal has been developed for the protection of the Big Bay National Park in Vanuatu. This proposal is being developed as a matter of high priority because of a major threat to the biodiversity of the area through large-scale logging. Furthermore, a work programme that supports the local community through sustainable use of the renewable resources of the area would provide an important case-study that may be relevant to other forest people and areas considering the prospect of major logging.

VII. CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC: BUILDING ON THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

12. Vanuatu is one of the three countries selected to benefit from phase I of the programme. Under phase I, the following two components will be implemented in Vanuatu:

(a) National frameworks for sustainable development. One of the expected outcomes of this component is a real prospect of meaningful involvement of stakeholders outside the Government in policy formulation and the implementation of sustainable development activities;

(b) Sustainable development planning and financing. This component embraces action in the relatively new and vital area of the revised system of national accounts, which integrates economic and environmental factors.

13. As part of the assistance to Vanuatu under the programme, a programme officer will be based in Port Vila, who will be responsible for the activities in the country.

Annex

External assistance to Vanuatu, 1992

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Sector	Bilateral	Multilateral	Total
Economic management	4 262	1 001	5 263
Development administration	4 410	1	4 411
Natural resources	2 487	740	3 227
Human resource development	5 311	102	5 413
Agriculture	2 620	776	3 396
Area development	262	57	319
Industry	0	49	49
Energy	0	28	28
International trade	1 369	0	1 369
Domestic trade	0	319	319
Transport	4 520	0	4 520
Communications	861	0	861
Social development	714	569	1 283
Health	0	0	0
Disaster preparedness	0	23	23
Humanitarian aid and relief	0	0	0
Total	26 816	3 665	30 481

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Forty-ninth session
Item 92 (e) of the preliminary list*
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Substantive session of 1994
Item 5 (j) of the provisional agenda**
SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1992-1993

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development during 1992-1993, prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/157 and Economic and Social Council decision 1993/209.

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

** E/1994/100.

Annex

[Original: Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish]

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Examination of the mid-term summary evaluation report on the plan of action for the Decade called for under paragraph 3.C of United Nations resolution A/46/157 (forty-sixth session)

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INTRODUCTION

1. By General Assembly resolution 41/187 of 8 Dece ber 1986, the United Nations proclaimed the period 1988-1997 World Decade for Cultural Development, and entrusted its implementation to the United Nations and UNESCO.

2. The United Nations General Assembly further recommended (resolution 1/44/238, adopted on 22 December 1989 at its 44th session) that the Director-General of UNESCO conduct an evaluation at the mid-point of the World Decade for Cultural Development, in 1993, of the implementation of the Decade. This recommendation was repeated in resolution 1/45/189, adopted at the 45th session on 21 December 1990 when the General Assembly 'reaffirms its support for a mid-term review to assess the progress made in implementing the Plan of Action for the Decade and to make proposals to further strengthen activities in this area taking into account the changing circumstances and the new realities in the international community'.

3. In resolution A/46/157, adopted on 19 December 1991 at its 46th session, the General Assembly requested more particularly that the mid-term review be focused 'on preparing a provisional evaluation of the implementation of the Decade, reviewing some of its goals, selecting a more limited number of priorities and defining specific tasks for the second phase of the Decade'.

4. This resolution set out the ways this was to be done and requested the Director-General to undertake written consultations with Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the Plan of Action for the World Decade for Cultural Development since its official launch on 21 January 1988. It invited him to undertake the preparation 'of a summary evaluation report based on the results of the written consultations' which would serve as 'the main working document for the mid-term review'.

5. In accordance with this resolution the Director-General of UNESCO has had written consultations with the Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

6. The distribution of replies is as follows: 41 Member States (11 in Africa, six in Latin America, two in the Arab region, six in Asia and the Pacific and 16 in Europe and North America), 12 organizations of the United Nations system including three Regional Commissions, four intergovernmental organizations and 28 non-governmental organizations.

7. This reply rate may be considered low when compared with the total number of Member States but more respectable by comparison with other UNESCO consultations of Member States.

8. However, although some of the replies were very full and although some convergence is apparent in the appraisal of results, the number of replies to the questionnaire seemed insufficient in quantity and content to claim that definitive conclusions could be drawn reflecting major trends of opinion in the international community.

9. For this reason the report requested also takes account of the work of the Intergovernmental Committees of the World Decade for Cultural Development, the Committee Bureaux, the inter-agency and intersectoral committees and also the discussion at the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference at both plenary and commission levels.

10. The large number and richness of the statements concerning the World Decade for Cultural Development and the World Commission on Culture and Development during the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference show the interest aroused by the Decade's objectives and Plan of Action among Member States.

11. The results of the evaluation made by the Decade secretariat in 1993 based on replies to the questionnaires sent to all project initiators were also taken into account.

12. Out of the five Regional Commissions invited, in paragraph 4 of United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/189 of 21 December 1990, to carry out an evaluation of 'the cultural factors influencing the development of the cultural sector as a potential creator of jobs and generator of income' only the Economic Commission for Africa produced the study requested.

13. This report makes no claim to draw from these various contributions - valuable though they are - definitive conclusions accurately reflecting the state of mind of the international community. Rather it seeks to evaluate the path that has been followed and the obstacles encountered, in order to prepare conditions to give new vigour to the Decade's Plan of Action. It also hopes to constitute a source of guidance and proposal enabling the implementation of activities for the second phase of the Decade to be routed along practical paths, based on lessons that may be drawn from the first in a spirit of constructive criticism.

14. Indeed, on close and frank study of the replies to the consultation and of the various contributions reaching the secretariat, a fair judgement is that, though much has been done since the launch of the Decade, the results obtained have not always been on the same scale as the objectives that the international community had set itself.

15. The first part of the paper therefore endeavours to measure the scale and diversity of the initiatives taken in implementation of the Decade. This is followed by a critical evaluation of the results obtained which should make it possible to define policy goals and proposals for future action.

I. REVIEW OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE DECADE (1988-1993)

16. This first part of the review attempts to measure the scale of the movement made by the international community to promote the Decade and as a result of which hundreds of projects have been carried out or are in progress.

1. Statistical review

17. For this Decade the Participation Programme is the biggest source of direct financial help for projects from UNESCO. UNESCO's ordinary budget is used more to finance major projects and promotion actions. In all, 839 of the 1,268 projects submitted were awarded the Decade label. A list of these projects, 197 of which received UNESCO financial assistance totalling US $2,142,150, is given in information document CLT-94/CONF.202/INF.8. The purpose of that paper is not to describe the projects implemented in detail, for which reference should be made to the reports prepared for the biennial reviews on the occasion of each session of the Intergovernmental Committee.

18. The statistical tables below provide some chronological and geographical data on Decade projects.

1989-1993 - Decade activities

Region	Total projects	Projects to which the Decade label was awarded	Projects awarded both label and financial aid (US dollars)
AFR	292	151	35 (390,750)
ARB	74	57	22 (296,000)
APA	199	111	36 (424,100)
E1	369	279	50 (457,500)
E2	129	102	15 (166,000)
LAC	205	139	39 (407,800)
TOTAL	1,268	839	197 (2,142,150)

Year	Projects submitted to the Secretariat	Projects to which the Decade label was awarded	Projects awarded both label and financial aid (US dollars)
1989	293	230	21 (142,700)
1990-1991	455	321	97 (1,043,400)
1992-1993	520	288	79 (956,050)
TOTAL	1,268	839	197 (2,142,150)

19. The 197 projects awarded financial aid were submitted by 80 Member States, four intergovernmental organizations and 13 non-governmental organizations. The other projects awarded the Decade label but no financial aid were submitted by 90 Member States, seven intergovernmental organizations and 20 non-governmental organizations. The award of the label to projects meeting the Decade criteria is important because it may often open the door to partnerships, in particular for the financing of projects.

20. These figures also reveal unequal participation across the international community - and by Member States in particular - in Decade activities.

2. Diversity and richness of the activities

21. The appeal launched by the United Nations for a World Development Decade was well received by Member States, IGOs, NGOs and the organizations in the United Nations system. Although they mainly concerned Objectives 2, 3 and 4, the launch ceremonies were the

occasion of a profusion of events which helped to make populations aware of the subjects of the Decade. In Africa and Asia in particular, numerous festivals, symposia, concerts, stage performances and exhibitions were held to mark the opening of the Decade.

22. Between 1989, the first year when projects really began to be implemented, and 1993 the number of persons throughout the world concerned to varying degrees and in varying ways in the activities falling within the framework of the Decade may be put at several hundred thousand.

23. The fact is that each Decade activity, whether it be seminar, theatre or cinema show, collective cultural event, book distribution or field project concerning women, young people or a dimension of development has a chain-reaction effect in awakening the awareness of the population.

24. Small and large projects complement each other in this process. The former, produced by small communities, offer a concrete and everyday-life approach to the Decade's subjects by practical participation in the activities. The latter lend national, regional and international visibility to the Plan of Action by acting as relays for small-scale local initiatives.

25. The following examples illustrate the impressive diversity of the subjects addressed and the great breadth of cultural creation stimulated by the Decade and they also show how rich are the activities under the various headings.

26. *The environment*: 'Nature and Society' (Australia); 'Cultural Roots and the Environment' (Belgium); 'Traditional Ecological Knowledge Management Systems' (Canada); 'Culture, Environment, Development' (Indonesia); 'Environmental Education' (Salvador); 'Study Seminar on the Ecosystem of the Tropical Forest' (Viet Nam).

27. *Crafts*: 'Organization of a cottage-industry village' (Burkina Faso); *The role of women*: 'Women's Development in Rural Societies' (Egypt); *Children*: 'Children's Cultural Development and Environmental Development Programme in Zambesi Valley' (Zimbabwe); *Tourism*: 'Leisure, Tourism and Environment' (World Leisure and Recreation Association); 'International conference on tourism and culture' (Indonesia); programme of case-studies on tourism, culture and environment (Asian region); *pluridisciplinary*: 'Vaka Moana' (Pacific region); 'The Slave Route' (Benin).

28. Objectives 2, 3 and 4 gave rise to many projects stimulating cultural creation and creativity but also making possible a better understanding of Objective 1 to whose achievement they indirectly contribute.

29. In that connection it is important to remember that the requirement for the cultural dimension to be taken into account is not confined to the economic or technological aspects of the process but extends to the socio-political evolution of societies as well. Account therefore has to be taken of the contribution made to the Decade by the many projects concerning the problems of multicultural societies and the interaction between culture, human rights and democracy, subjects that are particularly prominent in the Europe region.

30. *Assertion of cultural identity*: 'Acadian world congress' (Canada); 'Isiakh-yakut, National Ritual and Ceremonial Festival' (Russian Federation); 'CARIBART' (Netherlands Antilles); 'Revival of Traditional Cambodian Silk Weaving' (Cambodia); 'Sudan Women's Compilation of Ornamental Embroidery' (Sudan); 'Establishment of the Mongol Script Centre' (Mongolia).

31. *More participation in cultural life*: 'Introduction of the model of cultural promotion for children and adolescents' (Cuba); 'Cinemagic, cinematographical education of young people' (Canada); 'Art and poetry in Geneva, workshops for the disadvantaged' (Switzerland); 'Festival of street theatre at Arkhangelsk' (Russian Federation); 'Cultural impact of media audio-visual media policies' (Austria); 'Art in hospitals' (Germany).

32. *Promotion of international cultural co-operation*: 'The Roads of Faith' (Morocco), 'The Blue Danube' (Bulgaria and the Danube countries), 'The Iron Route' (Mozambique), and the other major intercultural projects such as 'The Silk Roads', 'The Maya World', 'The Baroque World', 'The contribution of the Arab culture via Spain to the Latin-American civilization' (Algeria).

33. Other activities help to implement two or three objectives at once, via the following subjects.

34. *Training*: 'Training and copyright' (Nigeria); 'Training of guides for museums and archaeological sites in order to increase and improve cultural services to the public' (El Salvador); 'Chaospilot' (Denmark).

35. *Cultural interpretation*: 'Resuscitation of the open air village museum' (Tanzania); 'Reorganization of the Egyptian national museum' (Egypt); 'Eco-museum of lower Casamance' (Senegal).

36. *Information and the dissemination of cultural data*: 'Interregional cultural observatory' (Venezuela); 'Multimedia library on socio-cultural development for the use of mother and child' (Benin); 'Establishment of a data bank and an exchange system for information and cultural documentation' (ICA); 'Multi-purpose Regional Cultural Centre' (Lebanon); 'European Cultural Information System and Data Base' (Hungary); 'Culturelink, information bulletin of networks for research and co-operation in cultural development' (Croatia).

37. *The cultural heritage*: 'Man and his heritage, travelling exhibition in Flanders' (Belgium); 'Culture and Tourism, Preservation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage' (Japan).

38. The Decade has also - particularly during the last two years - launched a number of major projects designed to give it the world visibility that it has not so far secured. This relates, in particular, to the following.

the World Commission on Culture and Development chaired by the last Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, whose task is to produce a World Report on Culture and Development;

the identification of interactions between culture and development, which is central to the Decade, and has been the subject of regional seminars in Denpasar (Indonesia), December 1991; Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire), November 1992; Delhi (India), April 1993; Hanoi (Viet Nam), June 1993; and Zagreb (Croatia), October 1993. The outcome of several years work, the publication of *'Dimension culturelle du développement, vers une approche pratique'* will be a major asset for the preparation and mounting of concrete activities under Objective No. 1;

the major intercultural projects whose purpose is to promote dialogue between cultures and some of which are mentioned above;

49. Several European countries have joined forces to carry out the 'Art in the hospital', 'Culture at the urban district level' and 'School culture in the 90s' projects.

50. Other initiatives have led to the birth of wider partnerships spanning several regions or continents: 'Art nouveau', 'Films as part of the cultural heritage', 'Baltic art', 'The people's habitat', 'The Baroque World', 'The Silk Roads', 'The Maya World' and 'The Meeting of Two Worlds'.

51. There have been numerous and valuable activities designed to *create public awareness* of the Decade.

52. Initiatives in the Arab world have consisted of meetings on the Decade and its implementation and the publishing of brochures.

53. In Latin America, information on the Decade has been channelled through various communication media and the Decade has been popularized by meetings on the financing of culture, cultural legislation, the status of artists, cultural industries, cultural decentralization and the cultural heritage.

54. In Asia, brochures and books have been published and fora, poster competitions, a seminar on nomadism and development, and exhibitions of contemporary and classical art have been organized.

55. In Europe a brochure has been brought out explaining the four main objectives of the Decade and so has a practical guide on the Decade translated into Portuguese, German and Finnish. Posters have been displayed, folders printed and events organized on the occasion of the World Day for Cultural Development.

56. This was celebrated in 1992 by a concert at the Paris headquarters and also by many Member States. An international symposium was held at Bogor in Indonesia, for example.

57. The information bulletin 'Culture Plus' and circular letters to the Intergovernmental Committee were used to pass on information about projects in progress in all the regions of the world.

58. Interdisciplinary projects have been launched on the combined initiative of several *UNESCO sectors*. Examples are 'Environment, education and information for human development in Asia' with the Education Sector, 'Vaka Moana' - the world of the Pacific ocean with the Natural Sciences Sector, 'Itinerant college on cultural development' in Africa and 'Latin America - Caribbean 2000' with the Culture Sector, 'Memory of the World' and the 'Bibliotheca Alexandria' with the Communication, Information and Informatics Sector and 'Urban rehabilitation' with the Social and Human Sciences Sector.

59. *Various United Nations agencies* have taken part in several projects including the Abidjan seminar (1992) on the cultural dimension of development (World Bank, UNICEF), the production of an information file on 'Culture, education, work' for the World Day for Cultural Development, 1993 (International Labour Organisation), the organization of a 'Culture and development' conference with the World Bank in Washington and the holding of a World Day on the Decade in New York organized by the United Nations Department of Public Information (1991).

the large-scale projects already launched or under preparation on tourism, culture, development, cultural industries and cultural pluralism;

designation of a World Day for Cultural Development with the participation of the United Nations agencies to promote the Decade by selecting a special theme for each year: Culture, education and work (1993), Culture and development (1994), Culture and agriculture (1995), Culture and health (1996), and Culture and technology (1997). This World Day for Cultural Development should be an occasion for the international community to rally to events designed to promote the Decade internationally. The big regional conferences at Bogor (Indonesia) in 1992 and Oaxaca (Mexico) in 1993 were positive in this respect.

3. Review of the implementation process

39. The process was put into effect by setting up Decade Committees in a large number of countries and forming partnerships of the most varied kind through which it was possible to mount numerous joint and awareness-creating actions with the participation of many NGOs as well as Member States and United Nations agencies. For the review to be complete, a brief outline of this process is necessary.

40. Since 1987, 76 National Committees for the Decade have been set up in all the regions. Some were founded only recently and they have not always performed the role of co-ordination, stimulation and guidance of activities that was expected of them, frequently because of the lack of interdisciplinarity.

41. Thus the projects initiated have often been more cultural in nature than really intersectoral and have only rarely been part of the framework of a national plan of action for the Decade.

42. However, thanks to new partnerships formed at national level, it has been possible to put innovative and original activities into effect.

43. The Decade also provided a framework for merging together many activities undertaken outside the Decade but pursuing the same aims.

44. The implementation of the plan of action has given rise to a significant number of *joint activities* with other countries and organizations at regional, subregional and interregional level.

45. First and foremost these were meetings - seminars and colloquia at regional level and research programmes on common subjects and in particular the relations between culture and development.

46. In Africa some ambitious regional projects on the culture of maintenance and understanding the place of the cultural dimension in development were initiated.

47. In the Arab region, a regional study by ALECSO on socio-economic policies and the plan for a study on relations between 'Man, the environment and culture' are evidence of the interest of the States in the region in actions reaching beyond national boundaries.

48. In Asia-Pacific, subregional projects on cultural tourism and 'Vaka Moana' - The Ocean World - (Pacific) have enabled firm relations to be built up among the actors.

60. *Many United Nations agencies* have set up projects with a cultural dimension in the framework of their own programmes. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) refers to projects related to research on the built environment, i.e. the habitat, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to case-studies designed to help in the preparation of education programmes in Yemen and Bangladesh and research on the acceptability of birth control methods in Viet Nam, Uruguay and several countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Other activities include support for women's participation in social and economic activities and the organization of an international poster competition on the theme 'The population and our world' in which 40,000 young people took part.

61. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) has conducted activities which include the cultural dimension, e.g. the rehabilitation and renovation of traditional houses and historic town centres, the repair of poor quality housing and support for the use of traditional building materials and methods.

62. FAO has launched actions falling within the framework of the Decade. Some were directed towards rural populations with the object of reconciling technical modernization with customs and traditions. Others concerned the pastoral culture of the Andean populations, the dissemination of know-how in the agricultural production field, the provision of assistance to specialized research and training centres, as in India for example, and help in the development of agricultural extension systems. A world conference was held on this subject in Rome in 1989 and FAO then approved two plans of action: one to promote the integration of women in development and the other to encourage the population's participation in rural development.

63. The United Nations University is to launch *a programme on culture and development* whose object is to set up a network of universities and institutions by holding meetings and producing research studies on the subject. Partnerships have been formed, in Asia in particular, with the town of Fukuoka in Japan and an Indonesian foundation with whose help a forum has been organized on the theme 'Culture, development and democracy: the role of intellectuals in Indonesia'.

64. The *NGOs* and local communities responded positively to the United Nations call for a World Decade for Cultural Development and made commendable efforts to ensure local populations became aware of the event. Joint activities included two books published jointly by 21 Catholic NGOs.

65. Several NGOs took various steps to stimulate participation in the Decade by publishing books on particular questions connected with the first objective of the Decade, producing films, organizing theatre shows as an aid to training and communication, particularly in the disadvantaged areas, and study and training workshops designed to heighten and improve the aptitudes for work and socialization of girls and women. Some NGOs, placing themselves in the dynamic of current socio-economic change and that of the construction of a united Europe for example, have taken initiatives with emphasis on intercultural thought and action, the dialogue between culture and religion, respect for human rights with a view to the establishment of real democracy, the development of the critical sense, the wider practice of solidarity at the material, intellectual and spiritual levels and the participation of young people and women's NGOs in development in new contexts.

II. EVALUATION OF RESULTS

66. An exhaustive assessment on the basis of the review outlined above is difficult because of the wide range of objectives and the general nature of the concepts determining the definition of the Decade. In particular how can a precise dividing line be drawn between projects undertaken because of the Decade and those that would have been proceeded with in any case, Decade or no Decade?

67. For example, one of the Member States consulted stated in its reply: The impact of the Decade is surely positive but difficult to measure because the concept of cultural development has a very wide frame of reference in which many elements of our national policy are embodied'. Another feels that 'objectivity compels us to admit that the activities carried out under the name of the Decade would probably have been carried out in the same way without it. The point is that the key objective of the Decade, namely taking the cultural dimension in development into account, is unquestionably making progress in our country. This is particularly tangible in the media, in the milieux concerned and, more and more, in the public mind. Though the Decade may not have been the only vector of this evolution it has played and will go on playing a significant role in terms of the international dimension it lends to the work being done'.

68. The Decade was intended, above all, as a way of creating awareness and stimulating action and, on that score some very positive results have been achieved. It would be wrong, though, to let that fact mask a number of inadequacies and a certain feeling of dissatisfaction, that stand out clearly on reading Member States' replies.

1. Gains made

69. *Awareness* that the main cause of failure of plans or programmes for the development of the South and the 'mal-development' of the North should not be sought solely in economic parameters but also in the inability to take the cultural context into account has made detectable progress.

70. Through the 'Decade activities', the idea that cultural development is as important as economic development and that cultural parameters are essential for assessing the welfare of populations has gained ground.

71. Many more traditional cultural activities corresponding to Objectives 2, 3 and 4 have brought about a cultural enrichment and a wider participation by populations in cultural life and international cultural co-operation. Through these actions, many of them initiated by local communities, the objectives of the Decade have been popularized among women, the young, educational and school milieux, minority human groups and those habitually marginalized in cultural activities. The large-scale intercultural projects have played an important part in the dissemination of the values of intercultural dialogue and co-operation between different peoples, which is a necessary condition for economic co-operation.

72. With the help of these activities, links of regional, subregional and international co-operation have been forged which will facilitate other joint action in the future. Partnerships between public and private institutions, ministries, NGOs and enterprises, formed during the preparation of projects or in the Decade Committees have helped to get actors to work together who had no inclination to do so. Ministers and other actors in various disciplines have co-operated on the occasion of 'Decade actions' and thus broken through the dividing walls

that are often an obstacle to the understanding of certain problems in their interdisciplinary fullness.

73. The fact that representatives from over 120 Member States spoke on the subject at the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference indicates that, thanks to the 'Decade projects', the awareness that sees an image of a vast, joint enterprise designed to give culture back its rightful place in the development process has advanced during the last five years. This is possibly the principal gain from the half decade.

2. Inadequacies

74. The main weakness of this first half of the Decade is the difficulties the partners had in translating into fact, via concrete projects, objectives which they considered to be useful and relevant. This is particularly true of the first objective.

75. An analysis of activities carried out in the framework of the Decade shows that too few of them relate to its first objective, which calls for greater awareness of the cultural dimension of development. In this sense there is a mismatch between the priority given to the first objective of the Decade and time and time again confirmed by Member States and the real priority which Member States have revealed through their choice of projects.

76. The degree to which Decade partners and Member States in particular have been aroused to action has not equalled the force of the intentions expressed at the outset. Admittedly a large number of Decade Committees were set up but they experienced difficulty in co-ordinating the various sectors of activity involved in the development process (agriculture, health, urban planning, etc.) effectively enough and persuading NGOs, basic communities, universities, research institutes, foundations and public and private enterprises to join in.

77. So the approach to the Decade continued to be purely cultural to too great an extent whereas it should have been more global and interdisciplinary. The difficulties the Decade Committees often met with in their efforts to unite strengths and resources through the partitions that in most cases divide a country's ministries were definitely underestimated when the Decade was being devised.

78. The result was a dilution effect, weakening the impact of 'Decade activities' particularly among decision and policy-makers: engineers, technicians and specialists.

79. Another finding is that, apart from UNESCO, which had a specific mission in the scheme, and the World Bank for a number of actions in Africa, the various agencies of the United Nations system did not really take part in the process whereas the Decade could have been an occasion for initiating operational projects and putting them into effect jointly, in the field, taking a certain number of cultural parameters into account. It is significant, as has often been pointed out, that there were practically no references to the concept of the cultural dimension of development when the Fourth United Nations Development Decade was adopted. The lack of harmony between the objectives of the two Decades was not conducive to the mobilization of the United Nations agencies.

80. A further difficulty is the lack of clarification and explanation of the complementarity of the concepts of sustainable development, human development and cultural development.

81. The United Nations Regional Commissions too, whose role of relay and stimulation is vital, reacted weakly as regards promoting the Decade and have not so far formulated any proposals for concrete action.

3. Some explanations

82. A clear understanding of the reasons for the above shortcomings is essential if the second phase of the Decade is to be approached in the optimum conditions.

83. From the very start difficulties had arisen in implementing the Plan of Action because the complexity of the message and the scale of resources needed had been underestimated.

84. A comparison with other international decades whose straightforward message can be represented in most cases by a photograph, a short text and a few figures - whether it be programmes for women, literacy or anti-hunger campaigns - shows that this is not true of the cultural dimension of development, for which to-the-point explanations and demonstrations are required.

85. The explanations must also take into account the fact that the perception of what is at stake differs from culture to culture. What is more, the translation of the idea into other languages has sometimes given rise to misunderstandings on the meaning of the Decade which it has taken months to dispel.

86. Thus a certain shortfall in explanation and understanding on the part of the Member States created some confusion between cultural development and the cultural dimension of development, as a result of which projects concentrated on traditional cultural activities. A preparatory phase of two additional years to organize meetings and seminars on the aims of the Decade would have enabled projects dealing with the first objective to be launched from the outset.

87. It would also seem that the resources - and financial resources in particular - made available for the Decade were not on a par with the ambitions of the Decade. The object was to influence development models and strategies by incorporating the cultural dimension but it has to be recognized that the low amounts contributed by Member States and private institutions did little to boost the necessarily limited resources made available to the Decade by UNESCO.

88. Some difficulties are no doubt bound up with the momentous political and ideological changes that have emerged on the international scene since 1989 and with the economic crisis and recession that affected all the regions of the world towards the end of the 1980s. From that angle the objectives of the Decade might be seen as marginal or even unnecessary compared with the severity of the question raised by gravely critical situations.

89. At the same time the daunting political upheavals that began in 1989 and had repercussions throughout the world changed the perception of the relations between culture and development in many Member States. Cultural creation on the one hand and development on the other suddenly took on a different meaning while questions linked with cultural identity in pluri-ethnic communities took foremost position in everyone's preoccupations. The new geopolitical configuration, the quickening globalization of the economy and communications in an increasingly open world raise the question of culture and the integration of that dimension in development in new terms forcing many actors into deep rethinking and a change of direction in policy.

III. POLICY GOALS, STRATEGY AND PROSPECTS

90. On the basis of the above review and the evaluation of the first part of the Decade, policy directions and strategy can be updated and perspectives outlined for the second half of the programme.

1. Policy goals

91. Arising out of the recognition in the early eighties of the inadequacies of development models so far proposed and their over- 'economistic' approach, the Decade was, at that time, an original approach of interest to both developing and industrialized countries: the truth is that the problems of 'mal-development' will only find real solutions in a global strategy in which the actors of the international community are all involved together.

92. Following the concepts of social development, then sustainable development, centred on the problems of the environment and the protection of natural resources, come those of 'human development' and the 'cultural dimension of development', the essential complement to the model that the United Nations can propose for humanity to go into the third millennium in the best possible conditions.

93. The object of the Decade is to change the model of economic development which, because of the accelerating globalization of the economy, is gradually imposing itself on all States on the planet with no consideration for cultural context and disregarding the wealth of human resources acquired over thousands of years of civilization. The problem is with us now and it is not by accident that the initiators of the Decade wanted to propose the theme of the cultural dimension as a subject for thought and action at this end of the twentieth century. The urgent need, therefore, is for better understanding and more action.

94. A deeper understanding of the objectives of the Decade and greater mobilization of the international community around concrete actions and large-scale projects are the keys to a revival of the Decade in the years to come.

2. Strategy

95. All the objectives set at the time the Decade was launched are still valid and complementary. The effective incorporation of the cultural dimension in development projects will only be possible if the culture concerned is alive and shared and if it constitutes a pole of dynamic activities. If this is so, what has to be done is to correct the disequilibrium between the objectives by redirecting the activities so that they respond more accurately to the Decade's first objective.

96. In the framework of this clearly stated objective a number of themes need to be selected that are capable of giving rise to large-scale interdisciplinary projects enabling efforts and resources to be better concentrated and producing a greater impact on both public and decision-makers. The replies to the questionnaires and the discussions at the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference point to convergence on three main themes:

culture, tourism, development,

cultural industries in the developing countries, and

intercultural dialogue and development in the framework of pluralist societies.

97. The other most frequently mentioned subjects are: 'Culture, environment and development', 'Culture, science, technology and development' and 'Culture, democracy and development'.

98. Lastly, projects will be encouraged dealing with links between culture and the other sectors of development: health, agriculture, industry, urban planning, information, etc.

99. This selection of subjects for large-scale interdisciplinary projects needs to be accompanied by the mobilization of the partners so that they are translated into concrete activities.

100. Within the United Nations system, UNESCO cannot act alone. It is true that it must improve its performance of the role of stimulation and co-ordination that it plays via the different bodies set in place for the Decade. The recommendations made by the ten formal and informal meetings of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee and the resolutions passed at the three regular sessions and the extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Decade have been particularly helpful for showing the way to go, correcting the strategy, proposing solutions for problems connected with implementing the Decade. However, there is no doubt that the conduct of joint projects requires more active participation by the other agencies; it would seem that the United Nations General Assembly and ECOSOC could formulate some useful recommendations in this direction.

101. The responsibility of the Member States and the National Commissions for UNESCO is also essential. This can be exercised through the many National Committees for the Decade which could make efforts to bring together the main partners in development to discuss specific subjects. The NGOs should also play an active role in associating civil society with the Decade and setting up information and co-operation networks.

102. It is clear from the above that the updated strategy will need to place the accent on concentrating action on the first objective: the homogeneity and visibility of actions, the widening of partnerships and a deeper commitment in the implementation of the Plan of Action by Member States and United Nations agencies.

3. Prospects

103. On the basis of the chosen strategic priorities, perspectives for the future of the Decade can be outlined in the form of concrete tasks to be performed and proposals to help the partners revive the Decade.

104. Among current activities mention should first be made of two key projects that will constitute major Decade achievements:

(a) The World Commission on Culture and Development

The work of the World Commission on Culture and Development will enable a *World Report on Culture and Development* to be produced based on regional consultation and in-depth thought. This report will embody the most varied information and data on the question and be aimed at the framing of policies in the culture and development field. It will be submitted to the UNESCO General Conference and the United Nations General Assembly in 1995. It could have a considerable impact on policies at the intergovernmental level.

(b) Methodology for taking the cultural dimension of development into account

UNESCO, which has already brought out a summary of experience in the field, will produce a manual designed to make it easier to integrate cultural factors in development projects and strategies and a practical guide for the use of those responsible for project implementation. These publications will enable UNESCO to respond, in terms of action methods, to all partners wishing to take effective account of the cultural dimension in economic and social planning and implementation by stimulating the participation of groups that stand to benefit at local level. They will also enable a cultural impact analysis to be produced for each United Nations system technical co-operation project.

(c) Culture and tourism programme

The promotion of a form of cultural tourism which is of benefit to local communities, respects cultural identities and protects and enriches the cultural heritage is an objective to which UNESCO hopes to contribute through debate, studies and action in the field. In practical terms, UNESCO is undertaking a study of the impact of the major campaigns for safeguarding the cultural heritage (Egypt, Borobodur, etc.) on the development of tourism and on economic and social development in the countries concerned.

The study on 'The flow of tourists through the art cities of the world', conducted in association with the University of Venice, the 'South-tourism' project and the regional projects in Asia and the Arab region are also part of this programme.

The implementation of the programme should be accompanied by an impact evaluation. Those who wish to develop their tourism and/or are apprehensive about some of its effects will thus be provided with data and information for analysis and discussion and can accordingly take the appropriate policy decisions favouring sustainable tourism which also shows greater concern for the human aspects.

(d) Culture and crafts programme

Through this programme, UNESCO wishes to highlight the cultural and socio-economic aspects of craft production.

The programme seeks to promote the following: the production of high-quality craft products which meet the needs of the population and the demands of a foreign clientele; the training of young craftspersons; the promotion and recognition of the creativity of craftspersons, particularly women; the dissemination of skills aimed at revitalizing a cultural heritage through the production of objects of artistic value.

Training and refresher courses for indigenous craftspersons in the field of management and marketing are also planned in several South American countries, in particular under the 'Latin America-Caribbean 2000' project.

The continuation of the Ten-Year Plan of Action for the Development of Crafts in the World, launched in 1990, is one of the main actions under this programme.

(e) Culture and habitat programme

The purpose of this programme is to encourage people to take account of the cultural dimension of the habitat as a development sector. As in the project 'Global development in the

new societies' launched by Egypt, the aim is to promote the building of houses which are adapted to the climate, designed in a traditional architectural style and constructed with local materials, so as to enable the local populations to acquire skills in the construction and maintenance of their habitat, while rediscovering their own architectural traditions, which are often rich, ingenious and economical. In other words, the aim is to promote endogenous development based on one of the most fundamental cultural features of people's lives. Training young people in traditional building techniques is also part of this programme.

105. The major intercultural projects, most of them already launched, will of course be completed, but the accent during the second phase of the Decade will be laid on the concept of intercultural dialogue as a foundation for international co-operative relations and the creation of development-favouring synergies.

106. Large-scale interdisciplinary and 'inter-agency' projects will be begun or continued in the second part of the Decade. Necessarily few in number, they will illustrate the problems of the Decade in the field and in the facts by involving United Nations agencies and the most varied partners in their implementation. In addition to the subjects already chosen themes like 'Culture and health', 'Culture and urban development', 'Culture and technology' and 'Culture and agricultural development' will lend themselves particularly well to the treatment of such projects.

107. Past experience could be turned to account through exchanges of information obtained by setting up a network of the Decade actors at regional and interregional level among all the partners in the Decade. The presence of actors in the field and project initiators in local communities would be particularly desirable in this network.

108. The institution of this mechanism for the exchange of experience and information on Decade activities would make it easier to put interdisciplinary projects into effect at regional and interregional level and to form new partnerships. Promotion activities centred on the annual celebration of the World Day for Cultural Development and the annual themes of the Decade should facilitate co-operation with those United Nations agencies having the relevant responsibilities.

109. Lastly, the organization of a World Conference on Culture and Development in 1998, the year following the close of the Decade, would provide a general target for the Decade and an opportunity to draw lessons from the experience acquired and the work performed, based chiefly on the Report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, and to formulate practical and concrete recommendations for the future. Machinery could then be set up for co-ordination and the exchange of experience and information to ensure ongoing Decade actions continue and the resolutions passed at the Conference are given effect. This would be both the culmination of the Decade and the start-line for a vast movement in favour of a development model better tailored to the needs of mankind.

110. UNESCO invites the United Nations and the Member States to work to make this Conference a world event on a par with the hopes that brought the Decade programme to birth in the world and with the trust that the international community has placed in the co-ordinating institutions to help it respond to the challenges of the twenty-first century.

PROPOSALS

111. The implementation of the following proposals by the Decade's various actors should enable its Plan of Action to be reoriented and reinvigorated during the years to come:

1. The Member States should become more involved and the Decade committees should open up to wider representation of sectors of activity associated with development. The Committees should set themselves precise objectives.

2. The commitment of the United Nations agencies should be firmer and more concrete. In particular they should be associated with the large-scale interdisciplinary projects.

3. The transition from Decade to post-Decade should be marked by a World Conference on Culture and Development the details of which have yet to be decided. This Conference will put forward 'post-Decade' recommendations.

The following principles are proposed for Decade activities:

4. Effort will be concentrated on large-scale interdisciplinary and intercultural projects of regional and interregional scope which will give more visibility to the overall Plan of Action.

5. The formation of the most varied partnerships - public, private, associations and various sectors of activity - will be encouraged with a view to promoting interdisciplinarity and to limit dispersal of resources and effort.

6. Priority in the selection of activities will go to the first objective and the themes chosen in the framework of that objective in order to restore the balance of the Decade programme. Priority will be given to innovative projects likely to have a concrete impact on development and, if possible, those linked to current problems.

7. Actions likely to facilitate understanding of relations between culture and development and the practical approach of the first objective will be encouraged.

8. The dissemination of information on Decade activities will be promoted by setting up a network of the actors in the Decade. Particular efforts will be made to awaken awareness at policy and decision-making levels.

CONCLUSION

112. The difficulty of making the significance and objectives of the World Decade for Cultural Development understood and the resultant lack of success in stirring people to action were major obstacles to the satisfactory implementation of the Decade.

113. An additional factor has been the smallness of the extra-budgetary contributions towards the financing of Decade activities which often meant, if it did not altogether prevent their going ahead, too little scope was given to excellent projects.

114. It will therefore be agreed that an extra two years would have been very useful, before launching the Decade, to cultivate minds and make quite clear to the international community the objectives that UNESCO and the United Nations were proposing to them.

115. But, with the unfolding of the Decade, valuable ideas could be seen to be strengthening the initial arrangements and giving them new life. The last two years of this first part of the Decade are particularly illustrative of this quickening of pace in the implementation of the Decade. Events during that period include the formation of the World Commission on Culture and Development, the World Day for Cultural Development, the writing of the 'Compendium of methodological experience of taking cultural factors into account in development', the launching of several major regional projects and the development or launching of intercultural projects and of many grass-roots community projects.

116. The conditions for a new phase and new vigour for the Decade are met. Only the will of the actors involved, translated into practical action will enable the progress made by 1997 in achieving the objectives set in 1986 to be measured.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 72 of the preliminary list*
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 9 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the faxed message addressed to you by His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia, on 7 May 1994 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) SISOWATH Sirirath
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

94-21675 (E) 160594 160594 16/05/94

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ANNEX

Letter dated 7 May 1994 from the King of Cambodia addressed to the Secretary-General

In recent weeks, the situation in Cambodia has deteriorated to a dangerous degree. Increasingly violent and murderous military clashes are taking place between the Khmer Royal Armed Forces and armed elements from the Democratic Kampuchea Party (Khmer Rouge).

This rise in hostilities has serious consequences, both because of the material damage which it is causing, towns and villages bombarded and set on fire, crops pillaged or destroyed, roads, bridges and railways destroyed following reconstruction, planting of new mines, etc., and through losses of human lives, an increasing number of seriously wounded persons, etc.

Tens of thousands of inhabitants in distress are condemned to flee the combat zones, and they serve to swell the ranks of the refugees repatriated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, more than 84 per cent of whom are still reliant on international food aid.

The extension of insecurity imperils the very existence of our foreign friends, several of whom have been ransomed or taken hostage. Some embassies have summoned members of non-governmental organizations or other associations working in regions that are threatened or at risk to fall back on Phnom Penh.

In vain, from my Beijing hospital bed and then since my return to Cambodia, I have launched many solemn appeals for a cease-fire and have proposed a round table for peace and national reconciliation in neutral territory from 2 to 7 May 1994.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has responded favourably to these proposals. The Kampuchea Democratic Party (Khmer Rouge) has confirmed its agreement in principle but nevertheless sets conditions.

In view of the limited powers vested in me by the Constitution, I feel that I have done the maximum to put an end to this conflict that has lasted too long, endangers life, even the mere survival of hundreds of thousands of my fellow countrymen, innocent civilians, compromises the efforts made by the international community to assist in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia and presents, once again, the grave threat of an actual partition of my country and its decline towards death as a state and a nation.

These mounting perils, which threaten the stability of the fragile balance laboriously worked out in our South-East Asian region, prompt me to request your advice and opinion with regard to the provisions of the Paris Agreements and the special responsibilities of the United Nations in their implementation and application.

(Signed) Norodom SIHANOUK

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 26 of the preliminary list*
COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN
MILITARY FORCES FROM THE
TERRITORIES OF THE BALTIC STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 18 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the text of a statement dated 9 May 1994, by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia concerning the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the statement circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 26 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst JAAKSON
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

Annex

Statement by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia
dated 9 May 1994

At a press conference that took place in Moscow on 6 May, the Russian Federation's Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, stated that the Russian Federation will keep its forces in Estonia as long as it deems necessary and even reserves the right to bring in more troops if necessary.

This kind of statement by the Russian Defence Minister can be classified as a direct threat to Estonian independence and sovereignty.

Within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the United Nations, the Russian Federation has made a commitment to withdraw its troops from Estonia, without any connection to any other issue. The 31 August 1994 date was offered by the Russian Federation itself. Likewise, the Russian Federation has no basis for tying the withdrawal of troops from Estonia to the withdrawal of troops from Latvia and Lithuania.

I hope that this statement by Defence Minister Pavel Grachev represents his personal opinion and not the Russian Federation's official position. In this connection, I have directed our Ministry of Foreign Affairs to request an explanation from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the hopes that the Russian Federation's Foreign Ministry will refute Defence Minister Pavel Grachev's irresponsible and tension-producing statement.

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Forty-ninth session
Item 64 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 17 May 1994 from the representatives of Ukraine and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from our Governments, we have the honour to transmit to you the text of the joint statement issued by the Vice-President of the United States of America and the Vice-Prime Minister of Ukraine on 13 May 1994 in Washington.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under item 64 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Madeleine K. ALBRIGHT
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the United States

(Signed) Volodymyr D. KHANDOGY
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of
Ukraine to the United Nations

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE VICE-PRIME MINISTER OF UKRAINE AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DATED 13 MAY 1994

The United States and Ukraine reaffirm their commitment to building a relationship based on partnership and mutual trust and respect between their two countries and to continuing to build a new relationship in security and defence matters that reflects the end of the cold war. In this regard, the United States and Ukraine recognize the importance of fulfilling their obligations under the START Treaty and the Lisbon Protocol, the January 1994 trilateral statement and the bilateral commitments these two countries have made to each other regarding the elimination of strategic offensive arms and assistance to be provided for this purpose.

Ukraine welcomes the United States progress in reducing strategic offensive arms. As the first step towards meeting the reductions required by the START Treaty, the United States has already removed over 3,500 nuclear warheads from over 780 intercontinental and submarine-launched ballistic missiles. Within the next few months, all warheads will have been taken off United States ballistic missiles whose launchers will be eliminated under this Treaty. Ukraine also notes with satisfaction that, as a reflection of the improved international security environment, by 30 May United States strategic ballistic missiles will no longer be targeted on Ukraine or any other country.

The United States strongly supports the Verkhovna Rada's and President Kravchuk's commitment that Ukraine accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapon State in the shortest possible time, and underscores its willingness to assist in helping Ukraine to eliminate strategic offensive arms located in Ukraine. The United States welcomes the progress in the process of deactivation of missiles on Ukrainian territory, and in accordance with the trilateral statement, 180 nuclear warheads have been transferred from Ukraine to the Russian Federation for dismantlement. The United States also welcomes the beginning of the process of delivery from the Russian Federation of fuel assemblies for nuclear power plants in Ukraine, in accordance with the trilateral statement.

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Forty-ninth session
Item 72 of the preliminary list*

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 20 May 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter of Mr. Anatoly M. Zlenko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, concerning the situation in Crimea.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr D. KHANDOGY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the United Nations

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Letter dated 20 May 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to the Secretary-General

On 20 May 1994, the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of the Republic of Crimea adopted a decision on renewal of the validity of the Constitution of the Republic of Crimea of 6 May 1992. That act is aimed at the change of the legal status of the autonomous Republic of Crimea as an integral part of Ukraine. By that act, the legislative body of the autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is an inalienable integral part of Ukraine, has violated the Constitution of Ukraine, its national legislation in force, including the Law of Ukraine on the Status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, as well as the Law on the Delimitation of Powers between the State Power Authorities of Ukraine and the Republic of Crimea, of 28 April 1992.

This illegal decision, provoked by the irresponsible policy of the present leadership of the Crimea and aimed at undermining the constitutional order of Ukraine and its territorial integrity, cannot be qualified as anything other than an obvious attempt of separatist forces to put the internal political stability of Ukraine at risk and provoke tension in the relations between Ukraine and the Russian Federation. By that act, a threat to peace and stability in the region and in the whole of Europe has been created, and this may have far-reaching negative consequences in view of the present tense situation in this part of the continent.

Today, when the European States participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe have agreed on the exceptional importance of preserving and strengthening, without reservation, the principles of territorial integrity and inviolability of existing frontiers as a pledge of peace and security in Europe, such separatist ambitions of the leadership of the Republic of Crimea may result in further dilution and erosion of those fundamental principles of international law on which European stability rests.

From the very first days of the existence of Ukraine as an independent State, the President, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and its Government have exerted maximum efforts for the all-round social, economic and cultural development of the Crimea. The Crimean region was granted the status of an autonomous republic within Ukraine, the Decree on the Open Economy Regime in the Territory of the Republic of Crimea was adopted, a number of other important arrangements concerning the stabilization of the economy of the Crimea and full respect for the cultural and other rights of the population of the Crimea have been made. Ukraine indeed implements the policy of renewal of historical truth concerning deported peoples, and facilitates the return of Crimean Tatars and other peoples to their historic motherland. In other words, the leadership of Ukraine has tried to settle the issue of Crimean autonomy through all this period of time, thoroughly, flexibly and on fully legitimate grounds. To our regret, instead of making the most efficient use of the available legal opportunities to address the emerging challenges, the present leadership of the Crimea has chosen the road of extremism and blunt confrontation.

The position of Ukraine as concerns the so-called "Crimean issue" has repeatedly been communicated to all our foreign partners and to international organizations and has enjoyed full understanding and support on the part of the world community. I hope, Mr. Secretary-General, for your personal understanding and support of the legitimate actions of the Government of Ukraine in averting possible negative consequences of the anticonstitutional decision adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of the Crimea. Ukraine reserves the right, in case of further escalation of the situation as a consequence of irresponsible steps of extremist forces in the Crimea, to take all necessary measures to ultimately ensure the State's territorial integrity as provided for by its Constitution and the laws in force, in observance of the norms of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Anatoly ZLENKO
Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Ukraine

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Security Council

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 38 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

During the night of Friday, 20 May 1994 and the following morning, an Israeli commando unit abducted the Lebanese national Mustafa Dirani from his home in the village of Qasr Naba, Baalbek District, in the north-eastern part of the Bekaa Valley. The unit used two very advanced military helicopters, which jammed Lebanese military radar systems and entered Lebanese airspace from the direction of the sea to the east of the town of Jbeil (Byblos). The unit unloaded four military vehicles a few miles from Mr. Dirani's home and then set out from there for a point close to the house. The Israeli soldiers broke into the house, bound Mr. Dirani's wife and brother and drugged Mustafa Dirani and took him to Israel.

The Government of Lebanon strongly condemns this fresh Israeli act of aggression, which represents a flagrant violation of its national sovereignty and is incompatible with the most elementary principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the International Bill of Human Rights.

At a time when there are increasing contacts and stepped-up negotiations for the achievement of peaceful solutions in the region, the Israeli violation of Lebanon's national security poses a direct threat to the peace process in the Middle East.

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* A/49/50/Rev.1.

The Government of Lebanon urges the United Nations, in particular the members of the Security Council, to take speedy action for the immediate release and repatriation of the Lebanese national abducted, Mustafa Dirani.

Lebanon reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council to consider this flagrant Israeli act of aggression against it.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 38 of the provisional list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Items 64 and 65 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you the statement of the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 19 May 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the statement circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 64 and 65 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

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Annex

Statement of the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Recently, the true colour of Japan as a nuclear criminal has been dragged into the light of day, causing quite a stir world wide. As was already reported, an extra-large case of the concealment of 70 kilograms of plutonium at the nuclear-fuel-making factory in Tokaimura, Ibaraki prefecture, Japan, was disclosed.

Japan had so far boasted of its "uprightness", claiming that it had opened to the public the amount of plutonium stockpiled by it and had accepted "strict inspections" by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

But it was disclosed recently that the Japanese authorities had not declared an amount of plutonium sufficient for the manufacture of nine nuclear bombs in the total inventory of plutonium, keeping it in secrecy.

This clearly showed their shamelessness. The concealment of plutonium is a violation of universally recognized international law, which should be taken seriously and denounced. The case also clearly indicates that the so-called "three non-nuclear principles" advertised so often by Japan are nothing but a "screen" for concealing a large quantity of plutonium and accelerating nuclear armament in real earnest and that the noisy row Japan has raised over the non-existent "nuclear issue" of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, taking the vanguard in the intrigues against it, was motivated by a trick to veil its nuclear armament and divert the public attention elsewhere.

The Japanese authorities, caught red-handed, are these days vociferating about "probe into the truth" and "removal of suspicion", but no one will believe that.

Judging from the fact that many nuclear facilities of Japan have been in operation for scores of years, it is self-evident that the recently discovered plutonium is only a tiny part of the amount concealed in Japan.

As regards Japan's production and concealment of much plutonium, the world public is demanding that the IAEA treat it as a grave case and take relevant measures.

If the IAEA secretariat fails to take issue with the dangerous nuclear activities of Japan and continues to make the matters complicated over the fledgling peaceful nuclear activities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, throwing "suspicion" on them, it cannot be construed otherwise than an application of a double standard.

The IAEA secretariat must pay due attention to this problem in compliance with the principle of impartiality.

The United States, which has used the "nuclear issue" of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for a sinister political purpose, calling for a "cooperation system" to stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, joining hands with Japan, the real nuclear criminal, cannot evade the responsibility for the case.

We do not feel any need of serious argument about the poor lot of the south Korean authorities, who have recklessly made a fuss about "nuclear issue" of the north, currying favour with the United States and Japan, the two big Powers.

While the south Korean authorities ran about mad, following Japan, the latter did what it wanted to. What a ridiculous sight it is.

The Japanese authorities must declare to the world public the exact total amount of plutonium now concealed nationwide and immediately stop nuclear armament.

We consider that since it has been confirmed as a fact that Japan's nuclear armament is being promoted on the danger level, the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is practically meaningless.

We call on the Governments of all countries, international organizations and anti-nuclear organizations to make unbiased efforts to remove the danger of nuclear development from our planet and launch a joint action to check the nuclear armament recklessly accelerated by Japan with the ambition to become a military and a nuclear Power.

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Forty-ninth session
Item 64 of the preliminary list*

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 23 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to your note dated 3 March 1994 concerning General Assembly resolution 48/75 K, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines", of 16 December 1993.

In this regard, I have been instructed by my Government to inform you of the following.

The Republic of Argentina has decided to declare a five-year moratorium, without exception, on the export, sale or transfer of all anti-personnel land-mines.

This measure is taken within the framework of compliance with General Assembly resolution 48/75 K, which "calls upon States to agree to a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines that pose grave dangers to civilian populations".

The moratorium decreed by Argentina is consistent with our country's support for efforts to reduce the serious damage caused by these devices throughout the world, mainly to civilian populations.

The Argentine Republic urges all anti-personnel land-mine-producing countries to resolve this threat to mankind, which claims over 150 lives each week.

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

The moratorium declared by the Government of Argentina on the export of anti-personnel land-mines forms the basis for the development of further efforts to set up a permanent system for the control of such devices. Accordingly, this moratorium is a first step towards mitigating the damage caused by explosions of anti-personnel land-mines.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 64 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Emilio J. CARDENAS
Permanent Representative

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Forty-ninth session
Item 72 of the preliminary list*
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 25 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 25 May 1994 from His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) SISOWATH Sirirath
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

Annex

Letter dated 25 May 1994 from His Royal Highness Norodom Sihanouk addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to express my sincere thanks for your kind reply to my letter concerning the alarming deterioration of the overall situation in Cambodia.

From 27 to 30 May 1994, at Chhang Sou On (my residence near Pyongyang), I shall preside over an inter-Cambodian round table in which His Excellency Chea Sim, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, His Royal Highness Norodom Ranariddh, First Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, His Excellency Hun Sen, Second Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, and Mr. Khieu Samphan, head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, will take part.

Unfortunately, Cambodia is divided into two parts, one composed of Government zones and the other of autonomous Khmer Rouge zones. It seems, alas, that there is as yet no solution that would put an end to this fatal de facto partition of Cambodia. However, I must obtain from the Khmer leaders of the two belligerent parties an unconditional and lasting cease-fire throughout the territory of Cambodia.

While the Cambodian Government is prepared to agree to a cease-fire, the Khmer Rouge have remained silent on this matter.

Since the Khmer Rouge are not implementing the Paris Peace Agreements of 23 October 1991, it would be useless to hold another meeting in Paris or Jakarta.

Unfortunately, no one can make the Khmer Rouge do what they refuse to do.

This is a problem which, in the long term, threatens the very existence of Cambodia. I am greatly saddened by it and overcome by despair.

(Signed) Norodom SIHANOUK

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31 May 1994

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Forty-ninth session
Item 104 (c) of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 27 May 1994 from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions of my Government, I am writing to you concerning the appeal of the Albanian intellectuals addressed to you, circulated as a document of the General Assembly on 9 May 1994 (A/49/153).

The letter of the Permanent Representative of Albania and its annex are yet another act of flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which well illustrates Albania's open support to the request for the secession of Kosovo and Metohija from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Moreover, it is a telling proof that the Permanent Mission of Albania has again abused the United Nations to promote its overt territorial aspirations.

By supporting the request of a group of Albanian intellectuals, many of whom are citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Albania has once again assumed the role of "protector" of Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija and promoted their "Greater Albania" claims towards the parts of the territories of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In doing so, Albania is encouraging forceful changes of the existing borders, thus seriously threatening peace and stability in the Balkans.

At a time when the entire international community is engaged in constructive efforts aimed at ending the civil war in the former Bosnia and Herzegovina and finding a peaceful solution to the crisis in the former Yugoslavia, Albania supports "the opening of the Albanian dossier". By using a group of intellectuals to achieve its long-sought strategic goal - secession of

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

Kosovo and Metohija and its annexation to Albania - Albania seeks to internationalize the so-called Albanian national question in order to achieve those ends. Since this implies the violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of its neighbour States, Albania openly demonstrates that it does not honour the internationally recognized borders and that it is pursuing a dangerous policy of destabilization of the entire region.

Kosovo and Metohija, as an autonomous province in the Republic of Serbia, is an integral part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Therefore, the allegations in the appeal that Serbia has occupied a part of its own territory are malicious and totally absurd. As a national minority in the Republic of Serbia (17.2 per cent of the population), the rights enjoyed by Albanians by far exceed the standards provided for by international instruments in this area. The autonomy granted to the Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. However, under the pressure of their separatist political mentors, the Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija consistently defy the legal authorities of the country they live in by intentionally refusing to exercise their rights in an attempt to legitimize secession and gain independence of the illegal, unconstitutionally proclaimed so-called Republic of Kosovo. Ibrahim Rugova, the leader of the Albanian separatists in Kosovo and Metohija, has recently stated that he is not interested in a dialogue with the authorities of the Republic of Serbia on the autonomy of Kosovo and Metohija. Evidently, it is not the failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to respect the human and minority rights of the Albanians that is the root cause of the problem in Kosovo and Metohija, but secessionist aspirations pursued by certain political leaders of the Albanian minority, supported and encouraged by the Republic of Albania, even at a cost of provoking a broader conflict.

Although the Albanian national minority enjoys all rights in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Serb and Montenegrin minority in Albania has been deprived of all rights. Albania's "solemn obligation" to respect the rights of national minorities is arrant hypocrisy. It is widely known that Albania's problems with Greece are caused exactly by its denial of the rights of the numerous Greek minority.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has warned the United Nations on many occasions that Albania is pursuing a dangerous policy of encouraging illegal secession, in contravention of the principle of inviolability of borders, which can have serious consequences. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that, instead of lending an ear to the unfounded protestations of the Albanian Mission, which constitute a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of other countries, the United Nations and its Secretary-General should call on Albania to settle all its disputes with its neighbours through a dialogue.

Pursuant to its policy of peace and promotion of good-neighbourly relations, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia stands ready to engage in such a dialogue with Albania to resolve all misunderstandings in the interest of peace and stability in the entire Balkan region.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 104 (c) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.